



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 24, 2002

### **S. 414** **NTIA Digital Network Technology Program Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce,  
Science, and Transportation on May 16, 2002*

#### **SUMMARY**

S. 414 would establish a new grant program within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA's) Technology Opportunities Program in the Department of Commerce. Authorizations under the bill would total \$250 million over the 2003-2007 period, and CBO estimates that appropriation of the authorized levels would result in additional outlays of the same amount.

Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 414 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 414 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 500 (education, training, employment, and social services). The estimate assumes that outlays will follow historical spending rates for similar competitive grant programs.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Digital Network Technology Program						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	250	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	18	115	68	50	0

NOTE: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

S. 414 would create a new digital network technology grant program and authorize not more than \$250 million for the 2003-2007 period. CBO assumes the full amount is authorized in 2003. If the authorized amount is appropriated in 2003, outlays would increase by \$18 million in the first year and by \$250 million over the 2003-2006 period.

The Technology Opportunities Program awards grants to state and local government and nonprofit organizations to enhance the delivery of social services, such as education, through technology. S. 414 would create a new grant program for historically black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, tribally controlled colleges or universities, Alaska Native-serving institutions, Native Hawaiian-serving institutions, and other institutions enrolling a substantial number of minority, low-income students.

Institutions would apply for grants to help them acquire equipment and instruction in digital network technologies. Grants would be awarded through a competitive process and the recipients would be required to provide matching funds.

**PAY AS YOU GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 414 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The bill would benefit public universities by authorizing \$250 million in grants for institutions of higher education, including public universities, to strengthen their capacity to provide instruction in digital network technologies. Any costs incurred by states to participate in this program would be voluntary.

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